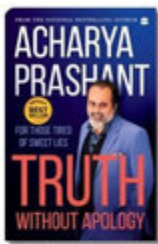




# The Ultimate Summer 2026 Reading List: 10 Books You Can't Miss

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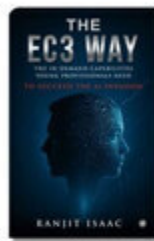
The Literature Times



Truth Without Apology  
by Acharya Prashant



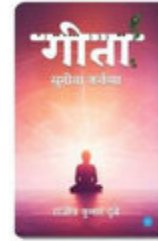
Deadlock  
by Karthik Venugopal



The EC3 Way  
by Ranjit Isaac



Lieutenant Norman  
by Goutham Kool Monk



Geeta Sugeeta Kartavya  
by Rajeev Kumar Dubey



Unveiling Shackles  
by Sundiya Kumar



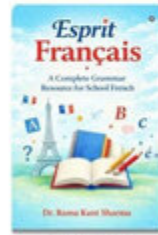
A Dozen Tales  
by Kumari Vandana Singh



Secret of the Missing Tenant  
by Aditya Banerjee



Sisters of Kashi  
by Sundari Haran



Esprit français  
by Dr. Rama Kant Sharma

## VMPL

New Delhi [India], April 6: Summer is the perfect time to slow down, explore new ideas, and get lost in a great book. Whether you're relaxing on the beach, traveling somewhere new, or simply enjoying longer evenings at home, the right book can make the season even more memorable. This list of the Top 10 Books to Read in Summer 2026 curated by The Literature Times (<https://www.theliteraturetimes.com/>),

brings together a wide range of categories--from gripping thrillers and inspiring nonfiction to heartfelt literary fiction, fantasy adventures, and thought-provoking memoirs.

### Truth Without Apology by Acharya Prashant

In a world where vagueness is mistaken for depth and obscurity passes for wisdom, Truth without Apology slices through our borrowed beliefs with rare clarity and fire. This is not a book to entertain or console. It is a challenge. A mirror. A sword. Drawn from Acharya Prashant's most penetrating writings, these reflections confront the reader on the deepest fronts--identity, time, desire, ego, relationships and the unseen forces that govern our mind. There are no borrowed ideals here. No recycled spirituality. Only original seeing, hammered out in the furnace of honesty and inner rigour. This is not for the seeker of comfort. It is for the one who is willing to be scorched clean. For the one who dares to ask: What is life really about, and am I living it right? If you are done with half-truths and pop wisdom, if you are ready to meet yourself without disguise, this book will not only speak to you, it will stir something in you that cannot be silenced again. But be warned: Truth does not flatter. It does not apologize. And once seen, it cannot be unseen.

### Deadlock by Karthik Venugopal

Deadlock is a gripping psychological crime thriller that plunges readers into a high-stakes battle of intellect and identity. When a series of meticulously executed murders surface each marked by cryptic riddles. Detective Max is drawn into a chilling pursuit of the elusive mastermind known as The Shan. What begins as a routine investigation soon transforms into a deeply personal conflict, as the clues unravel

unsettling connections to Max's own past. With every step forward, the line between hunter and hunted blurs, forcing him into a dangerous psychological game where logic alone may not be enough to survive. Blending razor-sharp suspense with profound psychological insight, *Deadlock* explores obsession, duality, and the fragile boundary between justice and darkness. Intense, thought-provoking, and impossible to put down, this novel delivers a powerful narrative that lingers long after the final page making it a truly unmissable read.

### **The EC3 Way by Ranjit Isaac**

It is a hands-on guide for young professionals navigating a rapidly changing world shaped by Artificial Intelligence. The book introduces the EC3 (Easy3) framework, a practical approach towards developing human-centric management skills that remain essential, despite technological advancement. Group Captain Isaac highlights the importance of a process mindset, adaptability, and self-awareness in building a successful career. He developed this framework, drawing extensively from his vast experience in the Indian Air Force and corporate leadership. The author guides readers to overcome their limiting beliefs and realise that growth can be achieved in an AI-driven world by being human. The EC3 Way equips not only young professionals but also executives and managers with this new thinking processes, as a strategy, needed to thrive, lead, and succeed in a world where what we call intelligence is becoming artificial.

### **Lieutenant Norman by Goutham Kool Monkk**

*Lieutenant Norman - A Cinematic Novel* by Goutham Kool Monkk is a gripping and emotionally resonant story that redefines war narratives

through the eyes of a silent hero. Centered around a war-trained German Shepherd who loses his handler and sense of purpose, the novel follows Norman's journey from battlefield trauma to emotional renewal. Blending intense action with profound emotional depth, the story explores themes of loyalty, sacrifice, and healing as Norman discovers new meaning in protecting a foster family. With a cinematic storytelling style, Goutham Kool Monkk crafts vivid, immersive sequences that leave a lasting impact on the reader. This powerful tale of resilience and redemption stands as a unique and moving contribution to contemporary storytelling.

Geeta Sugeeta Kartavya by Rajeev Kumar Dubey

A deeply reflective and spiritually enriching poetry that presents the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita through the lens of duty and righteous action. In this book, author emphasizes the central philosophy of kartavya--the sacred responsibility each individual holds in life. Blending poetic expression with philosophical insight, the book simplifies complex spiritual concepts into meaningful reflections that are easy to grasp and apply. It encourages readers to align their actions with higher principles, cultivate inner discipline, and embrace life's challenges with courage and clarity. Rooted in timeless wisdom yet relevant to contemporary living, Geeta Sugeeta Kartavya serves as a moral and spiritual compass, guiding readers toward purposeful action, ethical living, and inner harmony.

Unveiling Shackles by Sundiya

This book courageously explores the often-hidden emotional costs of familial duty within cultures that prioritize collective responsibility over

individual autonomy. Her narrative is a powerful testament to resilience and the transformative act of reclaiming one's voice amid deep-rooted societal and cultural constraints. Through honest and evocative writing, she challenges audiences worldwide to reconsider notions of freedom, identity, and gender equality. Her work offers a profound reflection on the human spirit's capacity for resistance and renewal in multicultural contexts--standing as a beacon of empowerment that inspires dialogue and change across borders.

### A Dozen Tales: Untold and Forgotten by Kumari Vandana Singh

A hauntingly powerful collection that brings to life twelve stories buried beneath silence and neglect. Each narrative peels back the layers of society to reveal voices long ignored--stories of quiet suffering, unspoken desires, and resilience forged in adversity. Moving seamlessly between stark reality and deep emotional intensity, the book captures moments that are as heartbreaking as they are unforgettable.

With vivid storytelling and raw authenticity, these tales challenge readers to confront uncomfortable truths about inequality, tradition, and human fragility. Yet, within the shadows, flickers of hope and courage shine through. This is not just a book--it is an emotional awakening, a call to see, feel, and remember the lives that history often forgets. Once read, these stories will linger, echoing long after the final page.

### Secret of the Missing Tenant by Aditya Banerjee

A gripping thriller that begins with the mysterious disappearance of a night watchman and quickly unravels into a far-reaching conspiracy. Inspector Shankar Sen, already wary of a mole within his department,

finds himself pulled into a case that is anything but ordinary. As he digs deeper, he crosses paths with Nitya Chaturvedi, a fearless investigative journalist determined to uncover the truth. Together, they navigate a dangerous web of corrupt officials, suspicious cargo dealings, and unexplained murders. With powerful forces working to silence them, the stakes rise at every step. As secrets unfold, the duo must race against time before the truth is buried forever, threatening to expose a deeply rooted system of deceit.

### Sisters of Kashi by Sundari Haran

A bold reimagining of the Mahabharata through the voices of Amba, Ambica, and Ambalika. Beginning with their abduction by Bhishma, the novel explores destiny, defiance, and desire as each sister responds differently to the same life-altering event. Blending mythology with contemporary emotional depth, the story questions dharma, choice, and the cost of vows. Through powerful female perspectives and evolving relationships, this evocative narrative sheds new light on familiar legends, presenting untold dimensions of resilience, love, and transformation across generations.

### Esprit francais by Dr. Rama Kant Sharma

Dr. Rama Kant Sharma is a distinguished and pioneering French author in India, known for his significant contribution to French language education. A passionate educator and visionary writer, he has authored comprehensive books covering major proficiency levels including DELF A1, A2, B1, B2, and DALF C1. His works are admired for their clarity, structure, and academic depth, helping numerous learners achieve linguistic excellence. Beyond exam-oriented resources, he has written

reflective titles such as Code Humain-71 and 111 Sillons de l'Ame, focusing on self-growth and inner transformation. His recent book, Esprit francais - A Complete Grammar Resource for School French, further strengthens foundational grammar skills while inspiring a deeper appreciation for the French language among students.

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